STATE OF ARIZONA

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DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

In the Matter of:)
WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER HORTON,) No. 02A-134 - INS
Respondent.) CONSENT ORDER

The State of Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department"), has received evidence that William Christopher Horton ("Respondent") violated provisions of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without the commencement of formal proceedings, and admits the following Findings of Fact are true and consents to entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent William Christopher Horton ("Horton") is, and was at all material times licensed to transact life and disability and property and casualty insurance as an agent, Arizona license number 65326. This license expires July 31, 2004. Horton used the assumed business name of Protection Plus Insurance Agency without filing the required certificate of assumed business name with the Department.
- 2. On or about August 20, 1999, Horton was appointed by Central Reserve Life Insurance Company ("CRL"), a life and disability insurer authorized to transact insurance business in Arizona, as an insurance agent to solicit applications for health insurance. The contract between CRL and Horton prohibits Horton from publishing, distributing or using any circulars, advertising, sales material or other matters referring to CRL or its policies without prior written consent from CRL.
- 3. On or about December 26, 2000, Horton was appointed by PacifiCare of Arizona, Inc. ("PacifiCare") an authorized health care services organization in Arizona, as an insurance agent to

solicit applications for health insurance. The agreement between Horton and PacifiCare stated in part, that "either party may use the other party's name, symbols, trademarks or other marks with prior written approval of the other party."

- 4. On or about January 25, 2001, Horton was appointed by Health Net of Arizona, Inc. ("Health Net"), formerly Intergroup of Arizona, Inc., an authorized health care services organization in Arizona, to solicit applications for health insurance. The agreement between Horton and Health Net contains a provision stating the "(b)roker shall not broadcast, publish, distribute, or otherwise make available any advertisements, marketing materials, trademarks, tradenames, or other written, electronic, or other forms of information referring to or regarding Benefit Contract or Plans without prior written approval of Plans."
- 5. Arizona Foundation for Medical Care ("the Foundation") is a preferred provider organization that contract with insurers, including CRL. Horton is not currently and has not at any material time been contracted to represent the Foundation.
- 6. On April 9, 2001, the Department obtained an April 8, 2001 health insurance advertisement via facsimile. Horton created the health insurance advertisement listing certain benefits and sample premium rates including: "Wellness Care Incl.," "No Deductible RX," "Choice of 8,000 Doctors," "Choice of Any Hospital," "Mayo Clinic and Hospital," and "No Primary Care Doctor."
- 7. The advertisement included insurance company logos from CRL, PacifiCare and Intergroup along with logos for the Foundation.
- 8. The advertisement did not identify the insurer providing the quoted benefits and premiums.
 - 9. The advertisement did not disclose any exceptions, restrictions or limitations.

- 10. From approximately February 2001 through and including April 2001, Horton faxed the advertisement to 12,000 north Phoenix businesses.
- 11. The advertisement did not identify Horton but instead stated "For a free no obligation quote, please call, Health Plan Sales, 602-954-5108."
- 12. On or about April 9, 2001, a Department investigator placed a call to the number listed in Horton's advertisement. The phone was answered "Protection Plus Insurance Agency."
- 13. Horton did not have permission from CRL, PacifiCare, Health Net/Intergroup, the Foundation to use their logos or names in his advertisement. These entities have directed Horton to cease using their names and logos in any advertisements.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Horton's conduct constitutes the transaction of insurance in this state under an assumed name or under any designation other than the real name of the individual transacting such insurance without filing a certificate with the director, within the meaning of A.R.S. §20-297.
- 3. Horton referred to the cost of a policy without disclosing exceptions, reductions and limitations affecting the basic provisions of the policy, within the meaning of A.A.C. R20-6-201(C)(2).
- 4. Horton's conduct constitutes the failure to identify the insurer, within the meaning of A.A.C. R20-6-201(L)
- 5. Horton's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes a violation of any provision of Title 20 or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director, within the meaning of A.R.S. §20-295(A)(2).
- 6. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondent's insurance licenses, impose a civil penalty, order restitution and/or order Respondent to cease and desist pursuant to A.R.S. §§20-295(A) and 20-295(F).

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Horton and his agents and employees shall immediately cease and desist from making, publishing, disseminating, circulating or placing before the public any advertisement or statement with respect to the business of insurance which is untrue, deceptive or misleading.
- 2. Horton shall pay a civil penalty of one thousand hundred dollars (\$1000) to the Director payable upon the entry of this Order for remission to the State Treasurer for deposit in the State General Fund.
- 3. The hearing in this matter currently set for September 10, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. before the Office of Administrative Hearings is vacated.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this s

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CHARLES R. COHEN Director of Insurance

CONSENT TO ORDER

- 1. Horton has reviewed the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 2. Horton admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and admits the foregoing Findings of Fact and consents to the entry of the foregoing Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 3. Horton is aware of his right to notice and a hearing at which he may be represented by counsel, present evidence and examine witnesses. Horton irrevocably waives his right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals relating to this Consent Order.

1	4. Horton states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever, except as expressly		
2	contained in this Consent Order, was made to him to induce him to enter into this Consent Order and		
3	that he has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.		
4	5. Horton acknowledges that the acceptance of this Consent Order by the Director is solely		
5			
6	state from instituting civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.		
7			
8	Date		
9	William Christopher Horton License Number 65236		
10	COPIES of the foregoing mailed/delivered this _4th_ day of _september_, 2002, to:		
11	William Christopher Horton		
12	Protection Plus Insurance Agency P. O. Box 34252		
13	Phoenix, Arizona 85067		
14	Constantino Flores, Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings		
15	1400 West Washington, Suite 101 Phoenix, AZ 85007		
16			
17	Benchmark Insurance Company 6701 West 64 th Street, Suite 125, Building 5 Shawner Mission, VS 66202		
18	Shawnee Mission, KS 66202		
19	Central Reserve Life Insurance Company 17800 Royalton Road, CRL Plaza Strongsville, OH 44136		
20	Strongsville, OH 44136		
21	Central United Life Insurance Company 2727 Allen Parkway, 6 th Floor Worthow Townson		
22	Wortham Tower Houston, TX 77019		
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1	Conseco Medical Insurance Company 11815 North Pennsylvania Street
2	Carmel, IN 46032
3	Conseco Life Insurance Company 11815 North Pennsylvania Street
4	Carmel, IN 46032
5	Crusaders Insurance Company 23251 Mulholland Drive
6	Woodland Hills, CA 91364-2732
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7	Forethought Center Batesville, IN 47006
8	Health Net of Arizona, Inc.
9	2800 North 44 th Street, Suite 900 Phoenix, AZ 85008
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11	Interstate Life Insurance Company 6609 North Scottsdale Road, Suite 202 Scottsdale, AZ 85253
12	Sectionale, 112 03233
13	Security Life Insurance Company of America 10901 Red Circle Drive
14	Minnetonka, MN 55343-9137
15	PacifiCare of Arizona, Inc. 410 N. 44 th Street, 10 th Floor Phoenix, AZ 85008
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17	Sara M. Begley, Deputy Director Gerrie L. Marks, Executive Assistant for Regulatory Affairs Marks Butterfield Assistant Director
18	Mary Butterfield, Assistant Director Scott Greenberg, Chief Operating Officer Catherine M. O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer
19	Arnold Sniegowski, Investigations Supervisor Bob Hill, Investigator
20	Department of Insurance 2910 North 44 th Street, Suite 210
21	Phoenix, Arizona 85018
22	
23	Curvey Walters Burton
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